

**TOWN OF WILBRAHAM**  
240 Springfield Street  
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095  
**(413) 596-2800, Ext. 204**



**WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 13, 2015**

**The Conservation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM**

**Members present:** Christopher Brown, Chairman, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Staff:** Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

**7:10 PM**

**Notice of Intent**

**Bruuer Pond/Sevey Park**

**Present:** Tonya Basch, Wilbraham DPW Assistant Engineer

The Town is proposing to stabilize the stream bed in Bruuer Pond and construct an access bridge over the stream. The bridge is to access the west side of the property for maintenance of lawn and trees. Tonya is currently working on a list of plantings that will thrive on the stream bank. Filter fabric will be installed on the bank then a variety of rocks and stones will be placed accordingly. The work on the stabilization will begin after the sedimentation basin is installed. The access bridge will be engineered in accordance to DEP Stream Crossing Standards.

As part of the submittal, a copy was sent to Massachusetts Natural Heritage for review. The Commission has not received comments from Natural Heritage so the hearing has to stay open until they are received.

**Motion:** Jim Roberts, continue hearing until April 27, 2015 @ 7:05PM

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Paul Ekman

**Unanimously in Favor:** Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Bruuer Pond/Sevey Park**

**Planting Update**

Tonya Basch indicated that she and the Engineering Intern researched and placed indicator stakes at Bruuer Pond locating where and what trees will be planted. She also indicated that volunteers would be available for watering the newly planted trees and shrubs.

**Thayer Brook Forest Management Plan**

**Update**

Rocky Mountain Wood has completed the large scale cutting and gathering of wood products and has moved all the equipment of the site. They are waiting for the ground to dry a little prior to going back in to hand-cut the trails and any other small areas. They will also be completing the animal huts and picking up any other debris.

**Shady Lane Land Donation**

**Lots 10-15**

Several members of the Conservation Commission went to Shady Lane to observe the lots that Mrs. Ham would like to donate to the Town as Conservation Land. Mrs. Ham read a memo to the Commission and the audience indicating that she and her husband purchased the land in 1982 with the purpose of selling building lots. As the years passed, she came to the conclusion that the land was too precious to clear it and build houses. It consists of tall stately trees, many different shrubs, wildlife, birds and flowers.

The lots are on a private road and are not conforming to current zoning size for building homes. Substantial requirements would need to be completed to develop the property; re-surveying, bring the roadway to public standards to be accepted, public utilities including water and electric.

The Conservation Commission would like the Open Space and Recreation Committee to take a site walk to the property and give their opinion. A message will be forwarded to them and an invitation to the next Conservation Commission meeting will be delivered to the OSRC.

**Appointment                      Lycott Environmental (Aquatic Control Technology)**  
**Minor Change Request        Bennett Pond**

Present: Robert Wheaten, Aquatic Control Technology

On behalf of the clients, residents of Bennett Pond, Mr. Wheaten is requesting permission to use algaecide, chelated copper (trade-name Captain) to manage nuisance algae in Bennett Pond in 2015 and subsequent management years. Lycott believes the use of an algaecide, chelated copper product will be suited for controlling nuisance filamentous algae growth in Bennett Pond.

**Motion:** Stoughton Smead, permit the minor modification to the issued Order of Conditions and allow the change of product used in controlling algae in Bennett Pond to be (algaecide, chelated copper) Captain

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Jim Roberts

**Unanimously in Favor:** Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Certificate of Compliance Request                      155 Main Street**

Several members of the Commission went to the site to confirm compliance of work as approved in an Order of Conditions issued in 2004. The work appeared to be in complete compliance.

**Motion:** Issue a Certificate of Compliance

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Paul Ekness

**Unanimously in Favor:** Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Certificate of Compliance Request                      181 Burleigh Road**

Several members of the Commission went to the site to confirm compliance of work as approved in an Order of Conditions issued in 2002. The appeared to be in compliance, however, the applicant did not submit an "as-built" showing location of completed work. According to the site plan submitted with the Notice of Intent, it appears that the septic system and driveway are within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Permanent limit of work markers were required and were installed as required.

**Motion:** Denied per lack of submittal of an "as-built" for the work proposed

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Stoughton Smead

**Unanimously in Favor:** Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Request for Use of Public Property                      McDonald Nature Preserve**  
**Granby Regional Horse Council**

Diane Godek, of the Granby Regional Horse Council submitted a request for use of McDonald Nature Preserve for an organized trail ride on Sunday, April 19, 2015 (rain date Sunday, April 26, 2015) and on Sunday, October 18, 2015 (rain date Sunday, October 26, 2015). People would bring their own horse to ride the temporarily marked trails and participate in an obstacle course. GRHC is a 501C, educational non-profit organization and has full liability insurance.

**Motion:** Jim Roberts, approve the events requested on April 19, 2015 and October 18, 2015

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Stoughton Smead

**Unanimously in Favor:** Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, Tom Reavey, Paul Ekness and Stoughton Smead

**Items to remain on the agenda for further discussion:**

- The addition of a by-law regarding a “no disturb” zone to any resource location
- Consultant Fee under G.L. Ch. 44§53G
- Rules and Regulations for Conservation Property

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM. The Conservation Commission will reconvene at its next scheduled meeting on Monday, April 27, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher Brown, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_